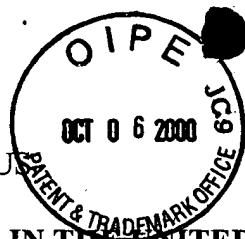


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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Tsuruo et al.) Group Art Unit 1631
Appl. No. : 09/221,931)
Filed : December 28, 1998)
For : **TELOMERASE INHIBITOR**)
Examiner : Borin, M.)

C/15
J. D. P.
10/18/02

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed March 31, 2000, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to enter the following amendments and consider the following arguments.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 11 as follows:

C1 SUB P1
11. (three times amended) A method of inhibiting telomerase activity comprising a step of contacting cells exhibiting telomerase activity with a telomerase inhibitor comprising a catechin [in an amount effective to inhibit the telomerase activity] at a concentration of at least 10 μ M.

Please add the following new claim:

21. (New) A method according to claim 17, wherein the green tea extract contains epigallocatechin gallate in an amount of at least 10 wt%.

ADD D3

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